Fellowship
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THE KLAN, TEAR GAS AND NONVIOLENCE IN THE DEEP SOUTH

Events in the Deep South last month growing out of Freedom Ride 1961 have produced a strange alliance between persons dedicated to nonviolence and the forces of law and order. The former have met mob violence with patient, non-retaliatory endurance that has touched the hearts of the nation. The latter have used tear gas and are armed with riot sticks and side arms.

In the struggle for India's independence, there were large numbers of men who, while they revered Gandhi as a saint, resorted to terrorism and military force in pursuit of Gandhi's objective.

The situation in the South today is different at many points. The federal marshals are not a revolutionary body but the duly constituted forces of the U.S. Government. Their presence in Alabama reflects the unwillingness of the Governor to give normal protection from mob attacks.

Governor Patterson, according to two Alabama newspapers, was elected with the support of the Ku Klux Klan, which is evidently behind the disorders. When, as it appears, terrorists are in league with local law enforcement agencies and the police stand idle while these terrorists beat unarmed men and women with lead pipes, what is the answer?

Two of the Freedom Riders -- one Negro, one white -- said, "We are prepared to die," as they continued their journey after having been beaten. Other apostles of nonviolence, like Jim Peck, will bear lifelong scars. These are the *satyagrahis* of the movement.

But what of the movement itself, and the masses of ordinary Negroes who comprise its bulk? No one who was not himself in the mob-besieged Montgomery church is in a position to criticize their accepting the use of legitimate force on their behalf.

Yet we believe that the redemptive power of nonviolent acceptance of unmerited suffering has not been exhausted in the Deep South. More than anything else, it was this power that stirred the nation when the Freedom Riders were smoked out and beaten near Anniston, Alabama a few days before the Montgomery episode.

CORE Field Secretary Genevieve Hughes reported that Freedom Riders were invited into the home of local white people across the street from the burning bus. These people took them to the hospital. There a nurse said to her, "I can't tell you how sorry we are about this," and another white Alabaman expressed sympathy. None of them

(Continued on next page)

500 Bulldozers

It was encouraging that Premier Fidel Castro's demand for a 500-bulldozer ransom for the 1200 prisoners captured in the abortive April invasion was not rejected out of hand. Instead, the State Department indicated that it might permit the transaction "for humanitarian reasons," and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Dr. Milton Eisenhower and Walter Reuther offered to help raise the money to pay for the machines.

We have a suggestion, based on an ancient admonition about coats and cloaks we read somewhere. Let's not send 500 bulldozers; let's send 1,000! Perhaps that would lift the whole matter to a different plane.

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The Klan, Tear Gas *(cont'd)*

could be termed "integrationists," yet they responded in a way that people do not respond when Federal marshals are involved.

No one has the right to ask the Negro community to shoulder the cross of redemptive nonviolence. But there is a clear need to explore ways of developing a strategy of nonviolent action that can rise above what is justifiable -- ways that may withstand mob violence better, in the long run, than tear gas.

Is There a Famine in China?

A resident of Hong Kong recently sent to the Fellowship the letter printed below. It is a vivid and startling answer to those who ask the question: "Is there a famine going on in mainland China?"

"Dear Sirs:

". . . The current famine on mainland China is very serious, about 1/5 of the peoples, especially the age peoples, had swollen, beginning from the hands or feet, and face then the body. The peoples were on a diet of thin rice soup, the lucky one may had small amount of vegetable, and may be little small fish once or twice a month, but not a drop of oil or any other kind of shortening.

"It was not only food shortage but also no fuel to cook the food. It was not only the peoples suffered starvation and most of the communist cadre also suffered the same ways. The peoples appealed to their relatives or friends of Hong Kong, if they know any, to send food to them. The communist gov't refused any organization to send foo to the peoples.

"Before Dec. 1960, it was allow in dividuals to send small parcel to thei relatives or friends, and limited eac person to receive one parcel eac month, and each parcel limited two lbs. and also limited the parcel contain oil, sugar or crackers only. To bu two lbs. crackers, about H.K.C. $2.00 and to send the parcel cost H.K.C $4.80 postage, and the duty is ove H.K.C. $2.00, it was almost total abou H.K.C. $10.00 for two lbs of crackers If send oil or sugar that will pay mor duty. It was very few peoples sen crackers, because two lbs. of cracker [illegible]onth for a starving people can' help much. They were mostly send oi or sugar because it may add to thei thin rice soup and believed the oil o sugar is good for their swollen body.

"I have some of my family living i Canton City, but I can't travel to mai land and also they are not allow t come to Hong Kong to see me, there fore last July 1960, I send the frien to find out for me, how are my family' condition. My friend wouldn't tell m how are the health of my family, and think he don't want to upset me, and h only said, they appealed to send food to them at all cost.

"I believed my family are strugglin on the verge of death, so I hired th messenger to carrys food to them, an each times I paid the wage, transporta tion, duty and storage from $80.00 t $100.00 of U.S. money.

"Each time just about 50 to 60 lbs of food allow to passed, the rest pu in the storage, and take it back whe the messenger on his way back to Hon Kong. The uncook rice is not allow t pass, so I cooked big pot of rice an hiding some cooked meat in it. It wa very hard to hire the messenger. Fro Jan. 1961, it was allow to send rice cereal, flour, bean, noodles by postal limited two lbs., and the postage wa from $2.40 H.K.C. a lb. lower to $1.6 H.K.C. a lb.

"So far I know, there are only indi viduals had the way to help thei friend or relatives a little."

NEWS from the peace front

The Cincinnati Presbytery last month indefinitely suspended FOR member Maurice F. McCrackin from his position as pastor of the Cincinnati-St. Barnabas Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, for actions resulting from his conscientious refusal to pay income taxes. The Presbytery charged him, among other things, with "resisting the ordinances of God" when he ignored "civil lawful powers" summoning him for tax refusal. McCrackin, who appealed the decision to the Presbyterian Synod of Ohio, has refused to pay the taxes over a 12-year period because a major portion is used for war preparations. Many of McCrackin's parishioners were reported sympathetic with his stand but no action by them has been contemplated.

The Presbytery has been studying the case for nearly a year.

* * *

A special New York State Commission to study the Penal Code and capital punishment in particular was set up by a recent session of the New York State Legislature. The group will make recommendations for revising the Code.

* * *

In Denver, Col., recently, a little girl came home from Kindergarten excitedly telling her mother that at school the teacher and all the children had gone to the basement, sat against the wall, put their heads down in arms and waited for the buzzer to sound. "And why did you do that?" her mother asked. The girl replied, "Why Mamma, it was for the fizzle defense."

* * *

In Oslo, Norway, last month, sixty scientists, philosophers and other scholars from fifteen countries signed an appeal for a treaty aimed at halting the spread of nuclear weapons. The appeal also urged that the long-stalled negotiations by the U.S., Britain and France for a treaty banning atomic tests should be "swiftly completed by reasonable compromise on the few questions remaining unsettled."

The appeal, in which Russians and Americans joined, came at the close of a 5-day conference in Oslo organized by Nobel prizewinning scientist Linus C. Pauling.

* * *

The Atomic Energy Commission has been covering up the number of radiation accidents in atomic plants, according to AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. secretary Leo Goodman testifying before the Joint House-Senate Committee on Atomic Energy in April. Over 500 cases of such accidents have occurred in the last year, Goodman said. Several employees at atomic energy installations also told the Committee that they had "full knowledge" of records being altered by the AEC to cover up the number, extent and nature of the accidents.

* * *

Nine pacifists arrested for refusing to take shelter during "Operation Alert," the nationwide Civil Defense drill in April, pleaded guilty last month in a Manhattan Arrest Court. Five of them chose jail, including FOR member Robert Gilmore, head of the Civil Defense Protest Committee. The other four chose to pay fines of $25 each.

One New York University student, Elizabeth Just, who was given a 30-day prison sentence for refusing to take cover during the drill, was freed when she withdrew her plea of guilty that had led to the sentencing.

* * *

FOR member Mrs. Theodore D. Walser recently received a special citation for her husband's work in advancing "the national life of the people of Japan." Dr. Walser, who died in 1949, had been the FOR Secretary in Japan from 1926 to 1945.

The citation was presented by the Association for Japanese-United States Amity and Trade Centennial.

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Plans for a World Peace Brigade conference to be held in Beirut, Lebanon, in the latter part of 1961 were discussed at a meeting of the Peace

(Continued on next page)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please allow 4 weeks—supply both old and new address.

Pledge Union in Birmingham, England, last month. Such a Brigade, the group said, would be "free of control by national governments" and "must involve people in the Eastern republics," according to a spokesman for the group.

Among the sponsors of the conference are Alan Paton, Abbé Pierre, Bertrand Russell and such FOR members as Martin Luther King Jr., Michael Scott and Danilo Dolci.

LIT NOTES

The Moral Un-Neutrality of Science by Sir Charles P. Snow is an eloquent statement of the moral responsibility of scientists and a challenge for them to choose to use science for benevolent rather than destructive purposes. This 10¢ reprint from *Science* Magazine is available from Peace Literature Service, AFSC, 160 North 15th St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.

* * *

A new series of 16-page primers on "Survival for the Sixties" has been issued by the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. Titles are: 1.) *A Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Now*, 2.) *Disarmament: What Kind? How Much?* and 3.) *The Economics of Disarmament.* None of the approaches are new, imaginitive or daring in any sense; such questions as unilateral initiative are carefully avoided. Those who favor a cautious, conventional attitude to these issues will find these primers useful. Others will want to familiarize themselves with SANE's thinking, and will find some if not all of the material thought-provoking. Price is 10¢ each, 15 for $1, from SANE, 17 East 45 St., New York 17, N. Y.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 9-10. FOR National Conf. in Cleveland at the Pilgrim Congressional Church, W. 14th and Starkweather, Cleveland. Registration: 4:30 p.m., Friday. Major sessions: 8:00 p.m., Friday; 9:30 a.m., 2:00 and 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. Registrar: Mrs. Earle A. Davis, 1853 Penrose Rd., Cleveland 12, Ohio.

June 14-15. FOR National Conf. in Webster Groves, Mo., at the Eden Theological Seminary. Registration: 6:30 p.m., Wednesday. Major sessions: 8:00 p.m., Wednesday; 9:30 a.m., 2:00, 3:45 and 8:00 p.m., Thursday. Registrar: Mrs. Wilma Sommerer, 3722 S. Compton, St. Louis 18, Mo.

HELP WANTED

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